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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/557,035	04/21/2000	Ryoji Amemiya	SONY-TO488	6480

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EXAMINER

WANG, JIN CHENG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/557,035

Applicant(s)

AMEMIYA, RYOJI

Examiner

Jin-Cheng Wang

Art Unit

2672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 17, line 5, "staring" should be "steering". On page 24, line 13, "an lower end portion" should "a lower end portion". Appropriate correction of all mistakes is required.
2. The applicant or their representatives are urged to review the specification and submit corrections for all mistakes of a grammatical, clerical, or typographical nature.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. "Rotating arbitrary one of said image information previously selected" is not enabled in the specification. The specification however only mentions rotating a multi-window screen.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2672

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

6. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nobuchi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,492,974.

7. Claim 1:

The Nobuchi reference teaches an information processing apparatus (figure 1) comprising:

(a) Posture detecting means for detecting the change of the posture of a display surface (column 6, lines 1-67, and column 7, lines 1-65);

(b) Display orientation control means for displaying a plurality of types of image information on said display surface, and for controlling the display orientation for the selected arbitrary image information by rotating arbitrary one of said image information previously selected in parallel with said display surface on the basis of the result of detection on the angular component derived from said posture detecting means (column 7, lines 25-67 and column 8, lines 1-29).

Claim 2:

Claim 2 recites all the limitations of claim 1 and adds the limitation of a plurality of windows. The Nobuchi reference clearly teaches a plurality of windows (column 3, lines 32-35).

Claim 3:

The Nobuchi reference teaches an information processing apparatus (figure 1) comprising:

(a) Posture detecting means for detecting the change of the posture of a display surface (i.e., a detector. See columns 5-7); and

(b) Display orientation control means (e.g., a display orientation selector selecting a corresponding one of the data display orientations in accordance with the size of the angle

Art Unit: 2672

detected by a detector) for displaying image information on said display surface (i.e., display panel), and for controlling the display orientation for the image information by rotating said image information in parallel with said display surface on the basis of the result of detection on the angular component derived from said posture detecting means (i.e., a detector. See column 7, lines 25-67 and column 8, lines 1-29); wherein

(c) Said display orientation control means controls said display orientation for said image information by rotating said image information in parallel with said display surface on the basis of said result of detection derived from said posture detecting means when said angular component has changed beyond a previously set predetermined angular component range (e.g., the data display orientation is changed automatically by approximately 90 degree when the display panel is rotated by approximately 360 degree with respect to the base. See column 7, lines 5-65).

Claim 5:

The claim 5 encompasses the same scope of invention as that of claim 1 except additional claimed limitation that the angular component changes beyond a previously set predetermined angular component range. However, the Nobuchi reference further discloses the claimed limitation that the angular component changes beyond a previously set predetermined angular component range (e.g., the data display orientation is changed automatically by approximately 90 degree when the display panel is rotated by approximately 360 degree with respect to the base. See column 7, lines 5-65).

8. Claims 7—9 and 11:

Art Unit: 2672

The claims 7-9 and 11 are a rephrasing of claims 1-3 and 5 in a method form. The claims are rejected for the same reason as set forth in claims 1-3 and 5.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 13-14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nobuchi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,492,974.

11. Claims 13-14 and 16:

(a) The claim 13-14 and 16 encompasses the same scope of invention as that of claims 7, 9 and 11 except additional claimed limitation of a medium storing a program which causes an information processing apparatus to execute a processing.

(b) The Nobuchi reference has taught an information processing method (column 1, lines 16-67 and column 2, lines 1-21).

(c) The Nobuchi reference however does not particularly disclose a medium containing a program for implementing the information processing method.

(d) However, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that computer readable medium (i.e., floppy, cd-rom, etc.) carrying computer-executable instructions for implementing a method, because it would facilitate the transporting and installing of the method on other systems, is generally well-known in the art. For example, a copy of the Microsoft

Art Unit: 2672

Windows operating system can be found on a cd-rom from which Windows can be installed onto other systems, which is a lot easier than running a long cable or hand typing the software onto another system. The Office takes Official Notice of this teaching.

(e) Therefore, it would have been obvious to implement the Nobuchi's method and put Nobuchi's program on a computer readable medium, because it would facilitate the transporting, installing and implementing of Nobuchi's program on other systems.

12. Claims 4, 6, 10, 12, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nobuchi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,492,974 in view of Nakamura U.S. Patent No. 6,380,921.

13. Claims 4 and 6:

(1) The Nobuchi reference has taught an information processing apparatus comprising posture detecting means, display orientation control means wherein the angular component rotates beyond the angular component range and the display orientation control means controls the display orientation for the image information by rotating the image information in parallel with the display surface (column 1, lines 16-67 and column 2, lines 1-21).

(2) However, the Nobuchi reference is silent on (a) the angular component rotates beyond the angular component range even after the lapse of a previously set predetermined delay time.

(3) The Nakamura reference has taught an information terminal device with display-illuminating means including a photosensor, open/close switch, hinge etc. wherein a display timer is employed (see figures 1A-7).

(4) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have incorporated the Nakamura timer into the Nobuchi's invention to set timer for operating the rotation of the

Art Unit: 2672

angular component beyond the angular component range after the lapse of a previously set predetermined delay time because Nobuchi suggests operating the rotation of angular component beyond the angular component range by an actuation signal (column 2, lines 1-14) and the actuation signal is easily implemented by a display timer and therefore suggesting an obvious modification.

(5) One having the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would have provided the information processing apparatus with a set timer function so that the rotation of the angular component can be operated by a timer.

14. Claims 10 and 12:

(1) The Nobuchi reference has taught an information processing method comprising a display processing step, a detection processing step, and a display orientation control processing step wherein the angular component rotates beyond the angular component range and the display orientation control means controls the display orientation for the image information by rotating the image information in parallel with the display surface (column 1, lines 16-67 and column 2, lines 1-21).

(2) However, the Nobuchi reference is silent on (a) the angular component rotates beyond the angular component range even after the lapse of a previously set predetermined delay time.

(3) The Nakamura reference has taught an information processing method with an information terminal device including a photosensor, open/close switch, hinge etc. wherein a display timer is employed (see figures 1A-7).

(4) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have incorporated the Nakamura timer into the Nobuchi's invention to set timer for operating the rotation of the

Art Unit: 2672

angular component beyond the angular component range after the lapse of a previously set predetermined delay time because Nobuchi suggests operating the rotation of angular component beyond the angular component range by an actuation signal (column 2, lines 1-14) and the actuation signal is easily implemented by a display timer and therefore suggesting an obvious modification.

(5) One having the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would have provided with a set timer function so that the rotation of the angular component can be operated by a timer.

Claims 15 and 17:

The claims 15 and 17 encompass the same scope of invention as that of claims 14 and 16 except additional claimed limitation of set timer. The claims are subject to the same reasons as given in claims 10 and 12.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Anderson U.S. Pat. No. 6,011,585 discloses an apparatus comprising an image sensor, an orientation sensor and a processing unit.
- b. Ishashi U.S. Pat. No. 5,898,600 discloses a portable information processing apparatus including a first member provided with an information display unit and a second member provided with an information input unit.

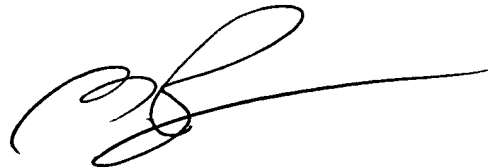
Art Unit: 2672

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jin-Cheng Wang whose telephone number is (703) 605-1213. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Razavi can be reached on (703) 305-4713. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-6606 for regular communications and (703) 308-6606 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 395-3900.

jcw
January 31, 2003



MICHAEL RAZAVI
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